IN THE CLAIMS

The status of each claim is listed below.

Claims 1-27: (Canceled).

28. (Currently Amended) A fertilizer comprising an organic nitrogen-containing composition comprising fermentation mother liquor obtained by culturing a ~~the~~ strain of *Enterobacter agglomerans* having L-glutamic acid-producing ability in a liquid medium the pH of which is adjusted to 5.0 or less, to allow L-glutamic acid to be produced and accumulated, which is accompanied by precipitation of L-glutamic acid, and then separating L-glutamic acid from the medium,

wherein the fertilizer comprises cells of the ~~a~~ strain of *Enterobacter agglomerans* having L-glutamic acid-producing ability and wherein said strain is AJ13355 (FERM BP-6614) strain or a derivative thereof obtained by mutagenesis treatment or a recombinant DNA technique.

29. (Previously Presented) The fertilizer according to Claim 28, wherein said strain can metabolize a carbon source in a liquid medium containing the carbon source and L-glutamic acid at a saturation concentration, and has an ability to accumulate L-glutamic acid at a saturation concentration, and has an ability to accumulate L-glutamic acid in an amount exceeding the saturation concentration.

30. (Previously Presented) The fertilizer according to Claim 29, wherein the pH of the medium is adjusted to about 4.5 or less.

31. (Previously Presented) The fertilizer according to Claim 28, wherein the percentage by mass of organic nitrogen with respect to the total solid matter is not less than 6% in said organic nitrogen-containing composition.

32. (Previously Presented) The fertilizer according to Claim 28, wherein the percentage by mass of sulfate anion with respect to total nitrogen is 500% or less in said organic nitrogen-containing composition.

33. (New) The fertilizer according to Claim 28, wherein said strain is said AJ13355 (FERM BP-6614) strain.